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FIXING DEVICE

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ABSTRACT

PURPOSE: To miniaturize a fixing device and, at the same time, to facilitate its heating area control, by providing plural electrodes which supply power from a power source to a heating resistance layer in corresponding to the width of a recording member.

CONSTITUTION: When a fixing roller 6 is preheated by means of a heater section 18 and the roll surface reaches a fixed temperature, a 'ready' display indicating that copying operations can be started is displayed and the size P of transfer paper is obtained. Then an electrode interval X is compared with the transfer paper size P. When $P \leq X$, the number (n) of copies to be taken is obtained and copying operations are performed. When $n=1$, the copying operations are immediately started. When $n \geq 2$ and $P < X$, electrodes having an interval smaller than the X are selected and (n) sheets of copies are taken. When $P \geq X$, electrodes having an electrode interval larger than the X are selected and electrode which make $P=X$ are set out of the selected electrodes. Thereafter, the display of 'wait' is made to raise the temperature of section, to which no power supply has been made, and the roll surface is heated. After a fixed time is elapsed, the 'ready' display is made an inputted number (n) of copies is obtained, then, copying operations are carried out. Therefore, the heating area width can be adjusted easily and this fixing device can be miniaturized.

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